

Williston State College Faculty Senate Minutes - Pending
February 25th, 2025
2:30pm, Stevens Hall 114

Chair:

Katie Renville

Members:

Richard Stenberg

Matt Peterson

Wanda Meyer

Keri Fedler

Gail Raasakka

Hunter Erickson

Jessalyn Bachler

Susan Zimmerman – attended late

Staff Rep-Carol Campbell

Student Rep- Neil Person

Ryan Freels - Guest

1) Call Meeting to Order – by Katie Renville at 2:30PM

Minutes from January – Gail Raasakka moved to approve the January minutes, Hunter Erickson 2nd. All in favor, motion passed.

2) Old Business

- a. AI Policy for Syllabus- **Table to March Meeting**
- b. HB 1437 – *Tenure policy in the legislature has been amended to change the faculty evaluation/tenure evaluation policy (not remove tenure). Will be further discussed below.*

3) New Business:

- a. **Dr. Atallah, Megan and Deb - Academic Affairs Organization – Current structure has all faculty under VPAA, with department chairs over each department. New proposed academic structure would be to have a Deanship over 3 branches on the academics side –1.) all transfer (16 faculty), 2.) healthcare, 3.) CTE (not including healthcare, this would be the same position as the CTE/TrainND Director) - basically a layer between VPAA and faculty. These Deans would be standalone positions, possibly teaching 1-2 courses per year, mainly focused on administrative duties. These duties could include faculty evaluations, advising, creating the schedule, HLC work, adjunct management, dual-credit, etc. There will also be changes to Student Services and the Business Office as well. Questions that faculty asked: timeline, hiring from within or without, advocate for faculty or admin? Main purpose would be to support faculty. These Dean positions would be top priority when it comes to the budget since we are log jammed behind on the faculty administrative side. These would be funded as part-time Deans with teaching 1-2 classes. Timeline would be target to hire July 1 – interview end of April. **Senators should get feedback from their departments to Dr. Atallah by a week from today.****
- b. Faculty Evaluations – *Changes that were previously made to the tenure/faculty evaluation policy will be reviewed by Dr. Atallah to ensure they are meeting legislature requests.*
- c. Tenure Policy/Procedure – *Goes along with faculty evaluations above.*

4) Other Business

- a. Mace Bearer for Graduation – *Policy says that the mace bearer will be the senior most faculty member that has declared they will be retiring. If no one is retiring, it is the senior most faculty member to carry the mace. Wanda Meyer will consider carrying the mace and report back.*
- b. *Ryan Freels presented some options for students who may need extra mental health support.*

5) Next Meeting: March 18th 3:00pm

6) Adjournment – *at 3:30PM by Katie Renville*